

BRIDGE SAFETY INSPECTION CONSULTANT PRE-QUALIFICATION  
QC Plan – Question & Answers Updated **2.18.09**

February 13, 2009

Some recently asked questions:

- Does the QC Engineer have to be on staff of the firm?
  - No. The consultant firm may use the services of another firm and stipulate this in their plan. This is a key position and MDOT will have to be advised of changes.
- Does the QC Engineer have to have a MI PE?
  - No. The QC Engineer can have an out of state registration. However, the “Qualified Team Leader” responsible for and signing the inspection report must have a Michigan PE.
- Is load rating part of this program?
  - The NBIS program includes load rating and the regulations specifically state that calculations are included in the QA/QC requirements. So a review of the current load rating information (as would be done in any inspection) must be a part of the QC process. Additionally, load rating or re-load rating performed during the current inspection cycle must be included as part of the 10% review set.
- Does the QC Engineer always have to be the same person?
  - No. The QTL and the QCE can switch hats. Generally, we want to see the seasoned veteran doing the QC.
- Will the QC process for bridge design prequalification be acceptable for bridge inspection?
  - No. The QC requirements for bridge inspection are unique and spelled out in the regulations.
- Does this QC process apply to other types of inspection?
  - The QC process applies to ALL forms of inspection and several firms that all ready have QC in place, indicated QC procedures for these other types of inspections. However, the inspection pre-qual is for “ROUTINE” inspections and the QC procedures narrative must at least cover this type of inspection.
- For underwater inspections using a diver, is it necessary for an independent diver to re-dive bridges to satisfy the field check?
  - No. There is no requirement to re-dive bridges.
- Will MDOT's QA reviews cover all types of inspections?
  - YES. During our QA reviews with the bridge owners we will check that QC is being performed on all types of inspections; In-depth, Other Special, Fracture Critical, etc. Contract prequalification with MDOT is for Routine inspections which is 95% of the work, but the program requires QC on all types of inspections.
- Will MDOT accept the professional engineering registration from another state if reciprocity has been applied for?
  - Yes, for 90 days. After that time pre-qualification will be suspended until the Michigan registration has been received.

2.18.09

- Has FHWA issued any guidance on QA/QC Plans?

- Yes. At the FHWA website (<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/nbis.htm>), under the National Bridge Inspection Standards there is a bullet for [Questions and Answers on National Bridge Inspection Standards](#). Click on the “Inspection Procedures” link and scroll to the bottom of section to Q-313-19. This has several reference links.